

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 22, No. 12

TORONTO 2, CANADA

July 19th, 1930

M-G-M BREAKS ITS OWN BEST RECORD!

Imagine! 28 per cent more
New Season contracts
are in than ever before
at this time—

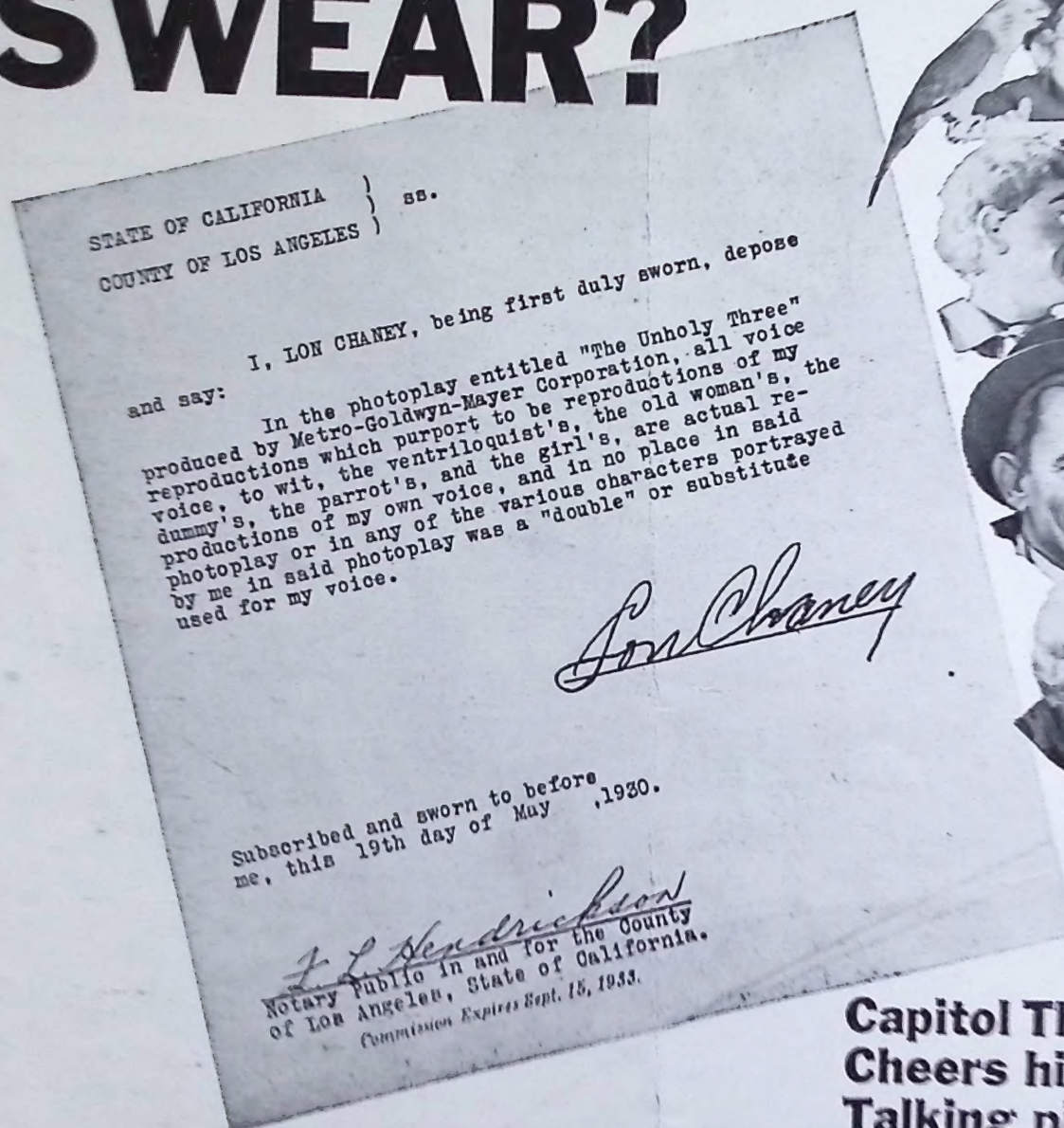
NATURALLY the smart
SHOWMEN sign with the
OUTFIT that makes "Big House",
"CAUGHT Short", "Divorcee", etc., etc.
1930-31 brings you the most
AMBITIOUS line-up ever attempted by
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

1930-1931
Contracts

Best Previous
Year



DID YOU EVER HEAR LON CHANEY SWEAR?



Capitol Theatre, N. Y.
Cheers his first
Talking picture

"THE UNHOLY THREE" IS THE TALKIE of NEW YORK!

"After a fan should miss the experience of hearing the
Chaney voice."
—N. Y. Mirror
"Consider yourself impressed, Mr. Chaney, for not
releasing your splendid voice talents before."
—N. Y. Daily News
"Of all players affected by the talkies Mr. Chaney has
benefitted most."
—N. Y. American
"With the exception of Garbo no colossus of silent
days has emerged with better advantage in talkies."
—N. Y. Graphic

Another money hit from the outfit
that brings you "Caught Short",
"Divorcee", "Big House" and a flock
more coming!

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
THE FAVORITE NOW—AND IN 1930-1931

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established in 1915 for
Exhibitors

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RAY LEWIS

Editor and Managing Director

Vol. 22, No. 12

TORONTO 2, CANADA

July 19th, 1930

How About Tom Thumb?



THROUGHOUT the country we find Tom Thumb very much advertized and in evidence.

No need to tell you that Tom Thumb is a miniature golf course, adorning principal sections of our cities and towns, running seven days a week, morning, noon and night, a continuous performance, and patronized by children, by young men and women, old men and women, in fact by Mr. and Mrs. Public extensively.

Tom Thumb will be a good six months' competition to theatre owners, and has this advantage, "recreation in the open air."

Summer business has always been a difficult business to maintain, and now that golf has gradually ceased to be a "rich man's pleasure," with the introduction of community golf courses, and the present popular appeal of Tom Thumb, exhibitors should give it a businesslike consideration.

Does it come under the same regulations, all conditions considered, as Motion Pictures, or has it legislative advantages municipally which Motion Pictures has not? Are your theatres inviting in the summer months?

Do not adopt the attitude of "it is only a passing phase." Those who play golf, or who have friends who play golf, or try to, know that golf is discussed at breakfast, lunch, and dinner, between meals, business is neglected for it, Daylight Saving Time is its natural offspring, and that golfitis makes men walk in their sleep; and turns wives into golf widows.

Men have sold women the idea of golf in order to keep married to their wives; and now women are selling the idea of golf to their children in order to stay married to their husbands.

Golf has become a family affair, just as Motion Pictures was a family affair in the good old picture days.

Today the Motion Picture speaks a language children do not understand, and some of the language they might understand is too adult for them; so between these two mental hazards, Tom Thumb will become more and more popular.

We understand that Motion Pictures is not a Children's Entertainment exclusively, but children have made up a good percentage of picture patronage.

The complications of the Talking Picture have been so complex, that the "Young patronage" of Motion Pictures has not been considered in the developments; and a good deal of the general indifference toward Motion Pictures is the result of the children's indifference; and producers' indifference.

At one time silent pictures were produced which pleased children, the young and the old. The universal and general appeal was there. Today, we have in the Talking Pictures, the adult appeal only.

Since mothers are obliged to be with their children, and children influence their parents a good deal as to where they wish to be entertained, the children's angle should be considered, or Tom Thumb will surely get them; and consequently influence the taste of the adult members of the family.

There is no age limit with Tom Thumb, nor other restrictions.



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

EXHIBITORS will be in receipt of a letter from the Canadian Performing Right Society, asking them once more to take out a license for the performing rights of music used at their theatres. Before we go into any further explanation on the matter, exhibitors are advised to withhold from taking out this license until the situation in respect to these licenses is cleared up.

For about six years the Canadian Performing Right Society has endeavored to collect this tax in Canada; and a Protective Association was consequently formed, which was successful, in the legal battle which followed, in winning a Court decision in favour of the exhibitors.

A PROTECTIVE Association is still in existence and operative; and until we find out just how this Performing Right license relates itself to Sound Film, exhibitors are advised not to start anything that may prove exceedingly costly at the finish.

The Berne Convention in Article 13, has a regulation in relationship to copyright; and since Canada is bound through a treaty to the rights as presented at the Berne Convention, being a member; and further, since there is a Treaty between Canada and the United States whereby Canada agrees to protect the same rights of the American authors and composers, the Berne enactment stands.

This Berne Copyright regulation states that the authors of musical works shall have two rights, first, the adaptation of those works to instruments which can reproduce them mechanically, and secondly, the public performance of the said works by means of these instruments.

THE FIRST right is paid for by the motion picture producer, who purchases the right to record the composition of the author, the second right governing Performing Rights, or public reproduction is to be paid for by the exhibitor, so states the Performing Right Society, and therein lies the fly in this particular Performing Right ointment.

The contention of The Digest is that since the producer sells Sound Film to the Exhibitor; and has a copyright on this film, all copyright privileges should be vested in the producer, for if the exhibitor in renting film has no right to the public exhibition of that film what is he purchasing from the distributor?

THE CONTENTION that the purchase of a song from a publisher, or a record does not imply public performance of same, does not relate itself to the rental of films, for no Exhibitor rents film for any other purpose than to exhibit

this film in his theatre; and if he must pay an additional fee for the music and songs used in the film he rents before he can exhibit this film at his theatre, what is to prevent the author of the story asking the exhibitor for a fee also?

The situation involves complications for the exhibitor and producer-distributor which show signs of assuming gigantic proportions. It will be much less complicated, and much less expensive, if producers will purchase recording and performing rights at the same time, absorbing this expense; and saving the Industry the necessity of coming under the survey and jurisdiction of a Performing Right Tax Collection, based on capacity of theatres and price of admission.

TAKE the situation in Canada for example. Let us say there are 500 sound equipped theatres, averaging a seating capacity of 600. This would make a tax, at the American rate of ten cents per seat, of \$30,000 per year. Now let us say we import about 500 pictures, it would only cost the producers an average of \$60.00 a picture to absorb this tax; and when this is divided up on the number of prints, the tax becomes a minimum consideration to the producer-distributor, saves the exhibitor the annoyance and expense of another nuisance tax, the necessity of keeping an almost impossible and prohibitively expensive record of music played at the theatre, to be sent in a weekly report to the Performing Right Society; and also protects the Industry from what has occurred in those countries where the Performing Right Tax has been operative for several years, namely, the steady increase of the tax!

The Digest's contention is that Sound Films have changed the relationship of the exhibitor to the Performing Rights Society, and that the exhibitor purchases film for public exhibition purposes, and in this purchase has already paid score charges and all the other costs involved. Therefore do not take out the requested license, exhibitors, until we give you some more information as to your rights in this matter!





981 theatres
have replaced unsatisfactory
sound equipment with . . .
Western Electric!

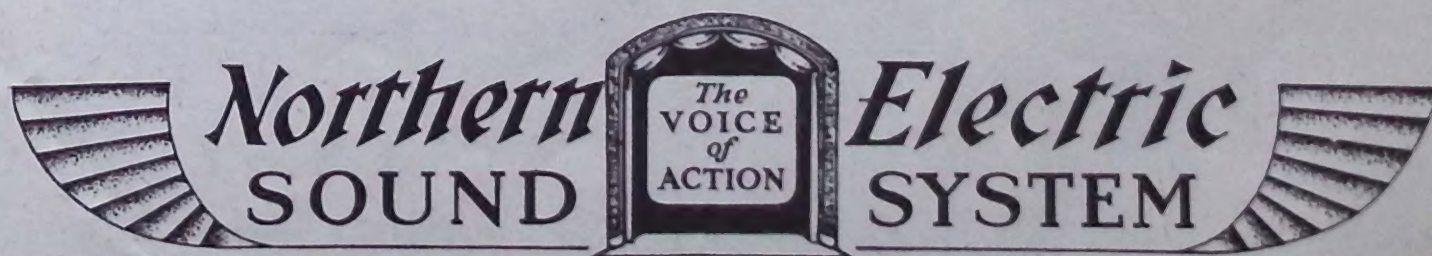
Why? Because of loss of business
due to poor reproduction . . . lack of proper servicing . . . program
interruptions.

The insistent public demand for quality sound reproduction led
these 981 theatres to change their equipment.

It's profitable to install Western Electric in the first place—it costs
less in the long run.

Western  **Electric**
SOUND **SYSTEM**

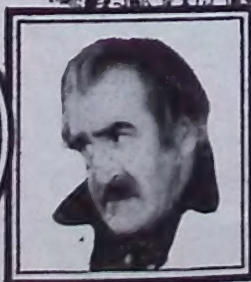
41 were Replaced in Canada
by



Western Electric in U.S.A.

THE INDIANS ARE COMING!

First of the
BIG 4
TALKING
SERIALS



with

**TIM McCOY
ALLENE RAY**

UNIVERSAL gives you four big talking serials this year—talking serials with faster action than serials ever before had—talking serials backed by hookups with newspapers throughout the country, the details of which will give you a money thrill. And by TALKING SERIALS Universal means serials produced on a scale that will stand comparison with the finest features.

The first of the four is "THE INDIANS ARE COMING," a smashing twelve-episode ALL-TALKING thriller, bringing to your screen the wild and woolly days of young America—the days when no wagon train was safe in plains infested with blood-thirsty red men—the days when life was an hourly peril for the trail blazers of civilization. Directed by that master serial-maker, Henry MacRae, with a cast including Francis Ford, Don Francis, Edmund Cobb and Charles Royal.

— and three
other **BIG**
ones—including
"THE SPELL OF THE CIRCUS"



UNIVERSAL FIRST!

"The Bad One" Is a "Good One"

UNITED Artists "Bad One" is a "Good One"

Dolores Del Rio, that fascinating and most clever of artists is the star; and in a part which suits her personality and beauty most admirably.

Dolores is a dancer in a French resort, which caters to sailors, and others of the male gender who believe in a short life but a merry one. Dolores is the most popular "Lita" who is called the "bad one," but who is indeed as good a little girl as a good girl can be.

Lita promises to love and marry several men, captivates and "plays around" with many, but really succumbs to the love charms of but one, Jerry Flannigan, who smacks of the "sad sea waves" but who is so "salty" that he proves an appetizer in the Game of Love and Marriage.

Jerry is none other than Edmund Lowe; and you know how Low, Lowe can be without really being Low, but Lowe enough to make the percentage of entertainment in what he appears, rank very high.

It is a story of love and triangle complications which land Jerry in prison, but since Love always has laughed at jailors and locksmiths, Love gets a chance for a big laugh at the finish, for Lita and Jerry roll away prison walls and clouds of distrust which divide them, to enter upon the high seas of a matrimonial cruise!

George Fitzmaurice directed the story so that we should have action and thrills blended with music and song.

The cast includes Don Alvarado, Mitchell Lewis, Yola d'Avril, George Fawcett, Ullrich Haupt, Ralph Lewis and a host of equally excellent performers.

It is a Dolores Del Rio and Edmund Lowe picture. Now you know what to expect. The director has let them "have their head," and they lead straight for the winning post as favorites.

RAY LEWIS,
Editor Canadion Moving Picture Digest

.. 48 BIG REASONS

As soon as Fox announced its pictures for "Great!" they wired and wrote. "Fox has the titles, Dramatic, humorous, romantic, musical and outdoor. These 48 Fox pictures are 48 Big

JOHN McCORMACK SONG O' MY HEART

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE
with MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN, ALICE JOYCE,
JOHN GARRICK, J. M. KERRIGAN AND
FARRELL MACDONALD.

RAOUL WALSH'S THE BIG TRAIL

Epic of the winning of the west. Cast headed
by JOHN WAYNE, MARGUERITE CHURCHILL,
EL BRENDL, TULLY MARSHALL, DAVID
ROLLINS, TYRONE POWER AND IAN KEITH.

Women of all Nations

Victor McLaglen and Edmund Lowe
in a story by the combination re-
sponsible for the success of "What
Price Glory" and "The Cock Eyed
World."

WILL ROGERS LIGHTNIN'

John Golden's stage play brought
to the screen under direction of
Henry King.

WILL ROGERS A CONNECTICUT YANKEE

Mark Twain's celebrated novel di-
rected by David Butler with color
settings by Joseph Urban.

JANET GAYNOR and CHARLES FARRELL Oh, For a Man!

The most popular team on the talking screen
in a comedy of love and music from the play
by Felix Gandera, directed by David Butler.

JANET GAYNOR ALONE WITH YOU

Frank Borzage who directed her to
stardom in "7th Heaven" will direct.
With John Garrick as leading man.

JANET GAYNOR ONE NIGHT IN PARIS

Kenneth MacKenna has the leading
male role in a movietone romance
directed by Guthrie McClintic.

JANET GAYNOR BARCELONA

John Ford will direct with Humphrey
Bogart of stage fame in the lead-
ing male role.

VICTOR McLAGLEN On the Make

Directed by IRVING CUMMINGS, with
MONA MARIS, HUMPHREY BOGART, LUANA
ALCANIZ AND MRS. JIMINEZ.

VICTOR McLAGLEN The Painted Woman

With Fifi Dorsay in this drama of
the South Seas. Directed by William
K. Howard.

VICTOR McLAGLEN Sez You, Sez Me

Fifi Dorsay is again the leading
woman in this comedy directed by
Alfred Santell.

EDMUND LOWE Men On Call

Directed by JOHN BLYSTONE. In the cast
are MAE CLARKE, WILLIAM HARRIGAN,
SHARON LYNN, IAN MACLAREN AND
MARGARET QUIMBY.

EDMUND LOWE Scotland Yard

Directed by WILLIAM K. HOWARD.
JILLIAN SAND, JOHN GARRICK,
LOUISE HUNTINGTON and J. M.
KERRIGAN complete the cast.

EDMUND LOWE and WARNER BAXTER The Cisco Kid

Further adventures of O. HENRY'S lovable
bandit in Old Arizona. Directed by Raoul
Walsh.

WARNER BAXTER Renegades

Directed by VICTOR FLEMING, with KEN-
NETH MacKENNA, J. M. KERRIGAN,
LUANA ALCANIZ, NOAH BEERY and
MITCHELL HARRIS.

WARNER BAXTER The Spider

Directed by CHANDLER SPRAGUE,
with MARGUERITE CHURCHILL, LEE
TRACY and HUMPHREY BOGART.

WARNER BAXTER This Modern World

With LUANA ALCANIZ, JILLIAN
SAND and RUTH WARREN.
Directed by ALEXANDER KORDA

MILTON SILLS The Sea Wolf

Directed by ALFRED SANTELL with
JANE KEITH and RAYMOND
HACKETT. Jack London story.

MAN TROUBLE

Directed by BERTHOLD VIERTTEL with
DOROTHY MACKAILL, MILTON SILLS, OSCAR
APPEL, SHARON LYNN, ROSCOE KARNS,
KENNETH MacKENNA, JAMES BRAD-
BURY, JR.

THE SPY

Directed by BERTHOLD VIERTTEL
with MILTON SILLS, PAUL MUNI
and MARGUERITE CHURCHILL

WOMAN CONTROL with J. Harold Murray

Directed by Guthrie McClintic with
Mona Maris, Claire Luce, Sharon
Lynn, Noel Francis, Marie Saxon,

THE RED SKY with J. Harold Murray

Directed by A. F. Erickson with Lois
Moran, J. M. Kerrigan, Erwin Con-
nelly, Lumsden Hare, George Brent,
and Marie Saxon.

HER KIND OF MAN with J. Harold Murray

Directed by A. F. Erickson with Louise
Huntington, Luana Alcaniz, Henry Victor,
Irene Day, Noel Francis, George Corcoran,
Keating Twins and Gus Howard.

FOR BEING HAPPY..

1930-1931, shrewd showmen got busy . . .
 "the players, the directors and the right idea!" . . .
 Fox has them all, full of punch and showmanship.

Reasons why you should be happy.

CHARLES FARRELL

A Devil with Women

Directed by Frank Borzage. Rose Hobart, Estelle Taylor, H. B. Warner, Lee Tracy and Guinn Williams head the cast.

CHARLES FARRELL

The Man Who Came Back

Directed by Frank Borzage. Color settings by Joseph Urban. Louise Huntington is the leading woman.

CHARLES FARRELL

The Princess and the Plumber

With Maureen O'Sullivan as leading woman. Directed by Hamilton MacFadden.

CHARLES FARRELL

She's My Girl

Joyce Compton is the leading woman. Directed by John Blystone.

JUST IMAGINE!

DeSylva, Brown and Henderson's original melody romance directed by David Butler. Maureen O'Sullivan, John Garrick, El Brendel, Marjorie White, Frank Albertson, Hobart Bosworth, Kenneth Thomson and Ivan Linow head the cast.

UP THE RIVER

John Ford directed this comedy of high life in prison. Cast includes Louise Huntington, Spencer Tracy, Joan Marie Lawes, Claire Luce, Walter McGrail, Humphrey Bogart, Lee Tracy, Black & Blue and Goodee Montgomery.

SOUP TO NUTS

A Rube Goldberg concoction directed by Benjamin Stoloff, featuring Ted Healy and his gang, Frances McCoy, Stanley Smith, Lucile Browne, Charles Winninger, and Hallam Cooley.

BLONDIE

Directed by Chandler Sprague. With Lois Moran, Humphrey Bogart, Robert Ames, David Rollins, Helen Keating, Elizabeth Keating, and Althea Henly.

GIRLS DEMAND EXCITEMENT

Directed by John Blystone, with El Brendel, Marjorie White, Joyce Compton, David Rollins and Dixie Lee.

LUXURY

Directed by Alexander Korda with John Garrick and Louise Huntington. Color settings by Joseph Urban.

HOT NUMBERS

Directed by Sidney Lanfield with Walter Byron, Nancy Kelly, Zasu Pitts, William Collier, Sr., Richard Keene, George Corcoran, Keating Sisters, Leslie Mae and Gus Howard.

PLAY CALLED LIFE

Directed by Chandler Sprague with Lois Moran, Kenneth MacKenna, Mona Maris and Maureen O'Sullivan.

GOING NOWHERE

Directed by Benjamin Stoloff with El Brendel, Marjorie White, Marie Saxon, Lee Tracy, Tommy Clifford, Joyce Compton, Nat Pendleton, Black & Blue, J. M. Kerrigan, and William Harrigan.

THE HEART BREAKER with Michael Bartlett

Directed by Victor Fleming. Colorful, singing romance.

COMMON CLAY

Constance Bennett, Lew Ayres, Tully Marshall, Matty Kemp, Hale Hamilton and Beryl Mercer in the Harvard prize play, directed by Victor Fleming.

ON YOUR BACK

With Irene Rich, H. B. Warner, Raymond Hackett, Marion Shilling and Ilka Chase. Directed by Guthrie McClintic.

SHE WEARS THE PANTS

Fifi Dorsay in an original comedy, directed by John Blystone with Kenneth MacKenna, John Garrick, William Collier, Sr. and Ruth Warren featured.

New Movietone Follies of 1931

Directed by Sidney Lanfield. In the cast are El Brendel, Claire Luce, Black & Blue, Dixie Lee, Richard Keene, Irene Day, Frances McCoy, Gus Howard, Marie Saxon, Lee Tracy, the Keating Twins, William Collier, Sr., Nancy Kelly and 500 beautiful Hollywood girls.

YOUNG SINNERS

From the sensational stage play, directed by Alfred Santell, with Lois Moran, Frank Albertson, J. M. Kerrigan and William Collier, Sr.

ARE YOU THERE?

(Temporary Title)

Beatrice Lillie makes her movietone debut in a comedy smash. Hamilton MacFadden directed, and the featured cast includes John Garrick, Olga Baclanova, Jillian Sand, Lloyd Hamilton, George Grossmith and Henry Victor.

Last of the Duanes

Zane Grey's stirring tale of the Texas Rangers, directed by Alfred Werker. George O'Brien, Lucile Browne, Myrna Loy, Lloyd Ingraham and Walter McGrail are featured.

FAIR WARNING

George O'Brien in another thrilling tale of the west, Louise Huntington will be the leading woman. Directed by Alfred Werker.

Wyoming Wonder

features John Wayne, leading man in "The Big Trail." Directed by Dan Clark. Others in the cast are Mae Clarke, Joyce Compton, Tommy Clifford, Noel Francis, Nigel Barrie, Warren Hymer and Rex the star steed.

NO FAVORS ASKED

A movietone melodrama featuring John Wayne, Dixie Lee, Noel Francis, Warren Hymer, George Corcoran and William Collier, Sr., directed by Alfred Werker.



Adolph Pollak



Adolph Pollak, President of Hollywood Pictures Corporation, who heads Liberty Exchanges in New York, Boston, New Haven, Buffalo, Albany, Philadelphia and Washington.

Kamloops B.C. Screened

Mr. Howard Booth, motion picture expert from Vancouver, accompanied by his cameraman, W. Hamilton, arrived in Kamloops to take views of the city. On the way driving over the highway from Vancouver, Mr. Booth took some interesting pictures of the highway and surrounding spots, for the Provincial Government.

Mr. Booth spent Sunday looking around for locations for other picture scenes that will probably be taken in the future. A panorama of Kamloops was taken from the golf course hill. Mr. Booth returned to the coast with the intention of taking some views of Hell's Gate.

"The Big Trail" To Be Shown at Tenton Lodge

President and Mrs. Hoover intend to take a brief vacation this summer at Wyoming with a party including the nation's Executive and family, also members of the cabinet and other high governmental officials.

The Presidential party will see "The Big Trail," at Tenton Lodge in the heart of the Tenton Mountains, in that state. This picture is one of Raoul Walsh's Foxfilm masterpieces.

Trenton Studio Story Not Confirmed

A story appeared recently in an issue of the Digest reporting production of two-reel talking pictures at Trenton, Ontario. The story was first syndicated throughout the press in Canada, and appeared in The Quinte Sun of Trenton, announcing that Mr. Humphreys of Trenton, would be in charge. Inquiry at Parliament Buildings, failed to get any confirmation of the story, but nevertheless the Trenton Studio is there; and talking two-reelers could be made and marketed profitably! The Trenton Studio belongs to the Ontario Government, and is utilized at the present by the Motion Picture Department for Laboratory work.

Oscar Hanson to Address Convention M.P.T.O.A. at Denver

The recent announcement which reported the resignation of Mr. Hanson from Tiffany can best be explained in Oscar's expressive interpretation as "all applesauce."

Oscar R. Hanson, General Sales Manager of Tiffany Productions, Inc., is preparing to leave for Denver where he will attend the annual convention of the M.P.T.O.A., which will be held July 29, 30 and 31.

Mr. Hanson has accepted an invitation to address the convention on Tiffany's sales policy and the coming season's product of his company.

New Theatre at Shaunavon

At six-thirty on June 30 the new Shaunavon Theatre, Saskatchewan, representing an investment of \$55,000, was opened. By 7 o'clock the theatre was practically filled, and Mayor Jensen was called on to say a few words. Mr. Jensen congratulated Manager Durham for opening such a magnificent theatre which is not excelled by theatres in any town in Canada.

Mr. Durham then spoke, drawing attention to the screen of the new perforated beaded type which is the first in Canada. He also spoke about the new ultra-modern fire-proof projection room. The seating capacity of the new theatre is 800 and everything is of the latest type, having all improvements.

Beach Theatre Robbed

Safe-crackers got away with approximately \$135 when they smashed the combination off a large safe in the office of the Beach Theatre, Toronto, Ont.

A much larger sum of money was enclosed in the small safe, but the burglars hearing a noise escaped leaving the safe on the floor of the office.

The robbery was discovered by P.C. Pettinger of Main St. Station. The police believe the safe-crackers were the same as those who attempted to rob the Prince of Wales Theatre, Toronto.

Work Progressing on New Theatre

The building of the Goderich Theatre, Goderich, Ont., is coming along very well. Mr. Frank MacArthur is installing the electric wiring and C. C. Lee has the contract for the metal roofing.

It is hoped that the theatre will open its doors to the public in the very near future.

J. P. Fillion Appointed Theatre Censor, Montreal

Director of Police H. Langevin, on July 8th announced that J. P. Fillion was to be the censor of theatres for the city of Montreal. Letters were sent out by Mr. Langevin concerning the matter and in their contents it was stated that from July 20, 1930, no theatrical performance could be presented in public without the sanction of the censor.

Lyceum Theatre to Re-open Shortly

The alterations on the Lyceum Theatre, Wingham, Ont., made necessary by the installation of talking equipment, are progressing rapidly. The new floor is being laid and the theatre will open about August 1st.

Carl Laemmle Jr. Talks

TWO YEARS of experimentation have proved to motion picture producers that the future technique of screen plays must be a more even division of former screen pantomimic art and a more modest use of dialogue, Carl Laemmle, Jr., general manager of Universal City, believes.

"The novelty of mere dialogue has passed," Mr. Laemmle states, "and now that talking and sound pictures have become a standard screen product producers can call upon their past experience to great advantage in developing what may appropriately be termed a 'new screen technique.'"

"TOO MANY talking pictures have relied solely upon dialogue to put over necessary business and dramatic punches in their plots. In silent films dramatic force and emphasis came from pantomime alone. It is my opinion that in the future we should develop as much of the drama as possible in pantomime (as we used to do in silent film days) and use the dialogue and sound to give emphasis to the high lights of the production rather than make scenes one continuous barrage of speaking or music.

"A new tempo in dramatic action and comedy will be conceived when screen producers master the art of spacing and dove-tailing pantomimic action and vocal action.

"IN 'Outside the Law,' a crook play which Tod Browning is now directing for Universal, we have employed less dialogue than in any talking picture we have made to date," says Mr. Laemmle, "building our big dramatic punches mostly in pantomime and topping them with spoken words. The result is startling. The pantomime proves a fine builder of suspense and the dialogue enhances the climax."

Film Royalty Rights For Authors Proposed

The International Congress of Authors and Composers, which has met in Budapest, has arrived at a resolution of considerable importance to the film trade. Upon suggestion of the vice-president, Eugon Huszka, it was decided to create a central organization with headquarters in Paris for the purpose of bringing to the notice of every sound film producer the names of the authors, titles of works and also the origin of the rights for adaptation and presentation of such works. It was also demanded that the remuneration fees for the purchase of manuscripts as customary hitherto should be replaced by the introduction of the film royalty rights for authors.

Insurance for Film-Breaks

Lloyds, the famous insurance firm whose headquarters are in London, are insuring exhibitors against breakdowns in talking pictures, it is stated. The rates average about £16 a year, based on daily receipts of £25. Conditions are that the film is permitted to break down three days running only and the maximum breakdowns allowed per year is fourteen.

Sound Film Blamed for German Unemployment

The German Musicians Association in a memorandum sent to the German Government pointed to the dangers arising out of sound film production. Of 12,000 musicians formerly employed in picture theatres, 6,000 are now idle. In Berlin 2,300 musicians receive the unemployed relief, in Hamburg about 1,500, in Cologne 500.

Roxy Addresses Fox

Eastern Conference

A conference was held at the Roxy Theatre last week at which Samuel L. Rothafel, popularly known as Roxy, gave a very interesting speech, in fact, almost the whole session was taken up by his talk.

Roxy stated, in his speech, that nothing whatever could prevent Fox Theatre Corporation and its affiliations, under the new regime, from becoming one of the world's foremost institutions of its kind. He expressed that he was exceedingly proud of his association with an enterprise such as this one.

Tribute was also paid, in his speech, to the executive who were giving him their co-operation in every way possible. He congratulated the men, telling them also that they could advance themselves by proving that they are showmen meriting greater responsibility.

Mr. Roxy paid a great tribute to Manager Sheehan when he said that the progress made by Fox Theatres Corporation was made possible by the wonderful quality of productions turned out by the Foxfilm Studios during Mr. Sheehan's regime.

This conference resulted in one of the most successful meetings of division and deluxe theatre managers of the Fox Theatres Corporation.

New Producing Company for Canada

There is a rumour to the effect that within the next two months a new corporation of Montreal, Canada, the Canadian-American Talking Picture Studios Ltd., under the directorship of Ray Jackson, will begin producing a series of features, shorts, serials and newsreels.

It is said that this company has been formed, particularly for the purpose of overcoming the Quota Law on American-made films in England which requires that 10% of American films shown in England shall be made on English territory.

The report goes on to state that under this arrangement, American companies will be able to use American stars, artists, and technician staffs, directors, etc., without involving the expense of sending them to England.

Capitol Playing "So This is London"

Fox's "So This Is London," notwithstanding the terrific heat in Montreal has had one of the greatest one-week engagements any picture has yet experienced at the Capitol Theatre, Montreal.

Although 75% of the theatregoers speak French in preference to English, Will Rogers' humour just hit the right spot. Critics hail this picture as even better than the first production "They Had to See Paris."

As the fourth of July was celebrated on Friday, a great many Americans were in Montreal for the weekend and a good deal of these visited the Capitol making quite a record in attendance.

Warsaw Block Film

A new production firm called "Block-Film" has been instituted at Warsaw. Its object is the production of sound films in multi-lingual versions, under the direction of M. Ordensky. The first picture on the schedule is "Janko the Musician," based on a novel by Sienkevicz the well known Polish author.

Canopy for King George Theatre

The erection of a new canopy at the King George Theatre, St. Catharines, Ont., has aroused very favourable comment. The canopy was lighted for the first time on Saturday, July 5. It is quite large, thus affording ample weather protection.

New seats have also been installed. These are leather spring seats of the most modern type. The King George Theatre is one of the foremost independently owned theatres in Canada.

Talkies for Orpheum Theatre

Talking equipment is now being installed in the Orpheum Theatre, Wolfville, N. S. It is expected that the first showing will be some time next week. Local theatregoers are anticipating this opening with a great deal of pleasure.

Start Work on Lyric

Work on the Lyric Theatre, St. Marys, Ont., is now under way. Joseph Patterson, who is the contractor, has already started work. They are working on the floor at the entrance of the theatre, which is to be fire-proof. These alterations are preparing the way for the installation of talking equipment. The manager states that talkies will be heard at the theatre shortly.

Increase In Earnings Of Paramount Publix

Reports for the second quarter are not complete as yet, but it is probable that Paramount Publix Corporation will show a net profit of \$3,500,000 for the period. This makes the total profits for six months \$8,300,000, which is equal to approximately \$2.85 a share on the 2,896,000 shares of capitol stock.

Will Attend Convention

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg.)

Walter F. Davis, manager of the R.K.O. Capitol, Winnipeg; F. L. Willis, of the Metropolitan, Winnipeg; C. A. Weiner, R.K.O., Winnipeg; R. Kershaw, superintendent Famous Players neighborhood theatres, Winnipeg; W. Novak, of the Gaiety, Winnipeg, will attend the annual convention of the Famous Players Corporation to be held in Banff opening on July 16th. H. M. Thomas, western superintendent, who is at present in the west, will join the Winnipeg party at Banff.

Twenty other western managers of Famous Players will be present.

Extensive improvements have just been completed to the Gaiety Theatre, Winnipeg, and Manager William Novak now has in the cosy little house one of the nicest theatres in the city. New seating, similar to that placed in the Metropolitan and Capitol, Winnipeg, six months ago, has been installed six months ago, the gallery has been raised and the house recarpeted throughout.

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Vocalite Glass Bead Sound Screens—In any size up to 20' x 40'. Approved for use with Western Sound Systems. Perfect projection surface, yet allowing sound from Speakers to pass through it without muffling. The only screen surface giving true rendition of colored scenes.

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Show Business



(Special to Digest from Ottawa)

Jacob Cohen, former police magistrate of Toronto and father of Arthur Cohen, managing director of Famous Players Canadian Corp., left an estate of \$120,000, according to the probate of the will on July 11. Substantial bequests were made to Jewish, Protestant and Catholic institutions while a life legacy was bequeathed to a nephew, Sam Cohen of New York. In addition to having been a police magistrate for many years, the late Judge Cohen was an exhibitor of long standing, having been the owner of the Globe Theatre, Toronto.

The City Council of Hamilton, Ontario, has imposed an annual license fee of \$100 on Tom Thumb golf courses on the ground that they were business enterprises organized for profit and, as such, were in the same category as the theatres.

Objection has been raised by the newspaper publishers of Canada that the political parties of the Dominion are spending practically all of their advertising funds for radio for the Federal elections to be held July 28. Formerly, it was pointed out, both the newspapers and theatres received considerable revenue from party advertising funds during a campaign. The argument has been advanced that radio speeches become monotonous and are quickly forgotten but that the voters should be given something to see or read.

A definite proposal has been made in Ottawa, the Canadian Capital, for a theatre which would be regarded as a National women's war memorial to seat 2,000 persons and to be under the direction of an experienced theatre manager. Funds have already been raised and a site has been provided by the Canadian Government but the project was delayed because of the difficulty in deciding the type of structure to be erected.

Exhibitors of Ontario cities are using the screen, through the medium of a special trailer, to announce a revision in the regulations of the Ontario Theatres and Cinematographs Act which permits the admission of unaccompanied children under 16 years of age to theatres between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturdays, school and statutory holidays where the theatres provide a matron to keep a supervising eye over the juveniles.

Labor men are complaining that employees at some theatres are required to work long hours and claim that the unemployment situation could be relieved somewhat if the hours of theatre attendants were regulated. It is asserted that some employees are called upon to work mornings as well as during matinee and night shows and sometimes until midnight.

In connection with the discussion regarding the part played by Thomas A. Edison in the perfection of motion pictures and the invention of projection equipment, the interesting fact has been brought out that two Ottawa, Ontario, men, the late Holland brothers, gave the first exhibition with Edison's Kinetoscope.

This is substantiated by the existence of a personal letter written by Thomas A. Edison on May 1, 1894,

from Orange, N. J., to the Holland Bros., congratulating them on their first public use of the machine. The letter, which is in Edison's typical handwriting, is as follows:

"I am pleased to hear that the first public exhibition of my Kinetoscope has been a success under your management and hope your firm will continue to be associated with its further exploitation."

The first presentation was in New York, after which the Kinetoscope was brought to Ottawa.

Regulations adopted by the Ontario Government this year for the classification of films have already fallen into disuse. It had been intended that all pictures suitable for juvenile or family entertainment, as directed by the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors, would be designated as "U" films in theatre advertising. The classification mark is no longer seen except in very rare instances and the designation has lost its significance.

Formal announcement has been made that the annual convention of Western managers of Famous Players Canadian Corporation will be held at Banff, Alberta, Tuesday, August 5th, when Sam Katz of Paramount Publix Corporation, and J. J. Fitzgibbons, director of theatre operations for the Canadian chain, will be introduced to the managers of the many F-P houses in Western Canada. They will meet the Eastern Canadian managers at the convention to be held in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Friday, August 1.

"Publix Opinion," the house organ of Paramount Publix, is now being sent to all Famous Players managers in the Dominion.

Three admission tickets to the Capitol Theatre, Peterboro, Ontario, are being given as a premium with each three months' subscription to the Examiner, the local daily newspaper, through an arrangement made with the publisher by Manager Jack Stewart. The theatre has derived considerable front page publicity through the plan and the Capitol is mentioned in display announcements. A nice part about the co-operative stunt is that the Examiner pays for all tickets at full cash value.

Manager E. P. Fields of the Capitol Theatre, Moose Jaw, Sask., sold 200 admission tickets to the Christie-Grant Department Store for use as a business stunt, one ticket being given free with each purchase of \$2.00 or over during a special sale. A block of the company's advertising space in the newspapers also boosted the Capitol's programs.

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg.)

Completing 34 years of civic service including that motion picture censor, Frank Kerr, chief of the licensing department in Winnipeg, will retire from public service shortly. Mr. Kerr will retire on his pension and will spend his remaining years in Winnipeg in a new home that he is building.

His memories of early Winnipeg are as varied as vivid. He became motion picture censor for Winnipeg, and later for the Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, when the original one and two-reelers of the wild west came to town.

Round About the Studios



A new portrait of the charming Edwina Booth, who enacted the leading feminine role in "Trader Horn," for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Ellen McCarthy, who played in Arthur Hammerstein's "Golden Dawn" and has also appeared on the concert and vaudeville stage during the past year, has been given a screen test and contract by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and has left New York for the West Coast. Her first picture has not been announced. Miss McCarthy is said to have one of the most promising soprano voices yet discovered among the younger screen aspirants and also an unusual photographic personality.

John G. Blystone, veteran Fox Films director, celebrated his fiftieth production for the company in "Men on Call," which was completed last week. This is the Coast Guard story which is Edmund Lowe's latest vehicle. The cast, including Mae Clarke, Willaim Harrigan, Warren Hymer, Ian McLaren and Sharon Lynn, spent five weeks at Monterey Bay filming the exterior sequences. Coast Guard personnel appeared in many of the scenes and equipment from five northern California stations was used.

The casting of Columbia's "Sweethearts on Parade," which is being made by Christie Brothers under the direction of Marshall Neilan was completed with the signing of Ernest Wood and Max Asher for the remaining roles. The list includes Alice White, Lloyd Hughes, Marie Prevost, Kenneth Thomson, Ray Cooke and Wilbur Mack. A sophisticated comedy revolving around the rivalry in the Navy and Marines for the hearts of young girls, the plot of "Sweethearts on Parade" is given a number of unusual twists.

Edward A. Paulton, noted author in his own right and son of an equally well-known playwright, has been placed under long term contract by Universal. He arrives in Universal City this week to write continuity and dialogue.

Roland West, who has made only seven motion pictures in thirteen years, cast Chester Morris in "Alibi," made a star out of him in a year, sold him his Hollywood house, took him yachting every Sunday, and is now ready to begin rehearsals on his second Chester Morris film, "The Bat Whispers." The grand reunion, minus sentiment and speeches that are abhorrent to West, occurs in two weeks at the United Artists Studio in Hollywood.

"The Office Wife," Warner Bros. Vitaphone adaptation of Faith Baldwin's widely read novel, has been completed and is now undergoing editorial changes in the cutting room. Dorothy Mackaill and Lewis Stone create the leading roles, while Natalie Moorehead, Brooks Benedict, Joan Blondell, Blanche Friderici, Walter Merrill and Hobart Bosworth make up the supporting cast. Lloyd Bacon directs.



HOLIDAY—Scenes from the Pathé special production of Philip Barry's stage success. Above, Ann Harding and Edward Everett Horton. Below, Robert Ames and Mary Astor.

Lon Chaney, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer star, boasts a hunting cabin in the Sierras that was almost as much work as the pyramids. The building material was hauled by ropes to a high peak, workmen camping in tents erected the structure, and a special road had to be built to reach it. It has its own electric light and gas plant. The nearest habitation is two miles away — mostly straight down.

J. M. Kerrigan, the Irish comedian who scored in "Song O' My Heart," is added to the cast of "Lightnin'." Will Rogers' next starring vehicle. His part will be that of the divorce judge in this adaptation by Fox Films of John Golden's stage play.

Tod Browning will finish the production of "Outside the Law," featuring Mary Nolan, Edward G. Robinson and Owen Moore, early this week.

"Wings of Adventure" is announced by Tiffany as the release title for "So This Is Mexico," recently completed by Director Richard Thorpe and featuring Rex Lease, Armida and Clyde Cook. The story by Harry Frazer is concerned with the adventures and romance encountered by an aviator and his mechanic when engine trouble forces them down in strange territory.

The picture which aided materially in bringing Menjou to the attention of the screen public was Charlie Chaplin's "A Woman of Paris." Menjou rapidly established himself as a master of deft, sophisticated comedy characterization. His most popular productions of the past three years include "The Grand Duchess and the Waiter," "A Social Celebrity," "The Sorrows of Satan," "Service for Ladies," "Serenade," "A Night of Mystery" and "His Private Life."

Del Andrews has been assigned by Carl Laemmle, Jr., to do the adaptation of "Saint Johnson," the novel by W. R. Burnett, which Edward Laemmle will direct. Lincoln MacVeigh will bring it out in September.

"Anybody's Woman" is the new title that has been chosen for "The Better Wife" according to announcement by Jesse L. Lasky, first vice-president in charge of production for Paramount. "Anybody's Woman" is the forthcoming vehicle for Ruth Chatterton and Clive Brook, making their first appearance together since "The Laughing Lady." It is adapted from a story by Gouverneur Morris. Dorothy Arzner, who directed Miss Chatterton in "Sarah and Son," has been handling the new film.

"A Husband's Privileges," Warner Bros. rapid paced comedy of modern marriage will have Irene Delroy in the leading feminine role, according to announcement made to-day by J. L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production. This is a Vitaphone transcription of the stage play by Robert Hanna.



Buck Jones, starring in a series of Westerns for Columbia, the first of which is "The Lone Riders."

Pathe Will Have No "Program" Pictures for Season 1930-31

Each Pathe Feature Picture for the new season will be found to be a "Special" in the full meaning of the term.

Never before has any producing company ever offered such an outstanding array of stories, stars, directors and supporting casts.

At the present time the first two of Pathe's 1930-31 Feature Pictures--"Swing High" and "Holiday"--are being shown at Broadway, New York, theatres at road show prices. Both these features are now in their third week at these theatres, and both are doing capacity business, in spite of hot summer weather. These two features are fair samples of what Pathe's twenty "Specials" for season 1930-31 are going to be.

For the new season Pathe's advertising accessories will be a revelation to exhibitors. Never before were such artistic, business-pulling posters and photos, as well as novelties, put out by any motion picture company.

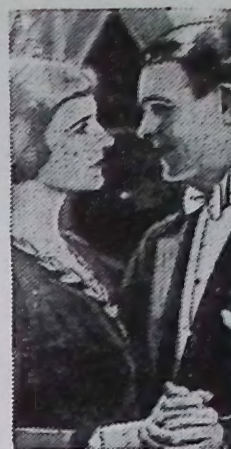
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